

Environnement
CanadaEnvironnement
Canada

Canada

Français

Contact Us

Help

Search

Canada Site

What's New

Topics

Publications

Weather

Home

About Us

About
LEVEL news**LEVEL** news**Contents**Low Water Levels
Continue to Cause
Concern for
BoatersLake Ontario
Outflow StrategyLake St. Lawrence
Boaters See Higher
LevelsPublic Meeting
Draws Large CrowdOpen House
Scheduled

June Precipitation

June Outflows

Water Levels for the
Great Lakes and
Montreal Harbour
... a monthly bulletin
from Canadian
Hydrographic
ServiceAbout the monthly
Water Level bulletinJune Precipitation
Over the Great
LakesAs a percentage of
the long-term June
average:Great Lakes 107%
BasinLake Erie 77%
(including
Lake St.
Clair)Lake 142%
SuperiorLakes 127%
Michigan-
Huron**Volume 7, Number 7****July 7, 1999****Low Water Levels Continue to Cause Concern for Boaters**

Water levels in most parts of the Great Lakes system remain low and are a cause of concern especially to boaters and commercial navigation. Levels of the St. Lawrence River at Montréal and on all the Great Lakes, except Superior, have not been lower at this time of year since the 1960's.

The levels of all of the Great Lakes remain below average and much below their level of a year ago. The levels of Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron are expected to continue to rise by a few centimetres in July, while the levels of the other lakes are expected to begin to decline in July unless water supplies are much greater than average.

Great Lakes basin precipitation for June was about 107% of average. The water supplies to all the Great Lakes were below average for the month.

The water levels of Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron rose by slightly less than their usual amounts during June. The level of Lake St Clair rose by more than the usual amount in June due in part to significant local rainfall near month-end. Lake Erie's level remained about the same in June rather than rising as it usually does at this time of year. Lake Ontario experienced much less than normal supplies in June, but due to the low outflow its level rose in June rather than declining slightly as it does on average.

Montreal Harbour's mean level of 5.56 m in June was 0.11 m below the level of the previous month, and 1.27 m lower than the 1967-98 average for June. The daily mean level at the harbour was below chart datum for 16 days of the month.

While last month's level at the harbour set a new record low for the month of June in the post-1967 period, readers should note that lower levels occurred in 1964-65 about the same time record low water levels also occurred on the Great Lakes. For water level comparison at Montréal, water level data beginning in 1967 is used because the last major channel changes took place in the St. Lawrence River at Montréal just prior at that time.

Lake Ontario Outflow Strategy

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control continued its

Lake Ontario 85%

Note: These figures are preliminary.

June Outflows From the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term June average:

Lake Superior 96%

Lake Erie 92%

Lake Huron 92%

Lake Ontario 84%

Note: These figures are preliminary.

Last Issue

Next Issue

Issue Index

Summary information for "LEVELnews"

regulation strategy during June to offset the over-discharge deviations, by releasing from Lake Ontario outflows less than specified by the regulation plan. The over-discharge deviations (that is, outflow more than specified by the regulation plan) took place last fall to alleviate the very low water level conditions at the Port of Montréal. Further very small reductions below plan flows are expected over the next few weeks in order to totally offset the remaining over-discharge deviations, which amount to about a one centimetre lowering on Lake Ontario at the end of June.

Lake St. Lawrence Boaters See Higher Levels

While boaters and marinas throughout the Great Lakes are experiencing lower water levels, boaters on Lake St. Lawrence just above the Moses-Saunders dam are enjoying levels well above average thanks to very low flows at the dam. But as with our advice to all boaters everywhere, caution is advised whenever and wherever you venture. Increased water levels on Lake St. Lawrence have submerged some high spots which otherwise can be seen with the naked eye.

Public Meeting Draws Large Crowd

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control held its annual public meeting to discuss the regulation of outflows and water levels of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River on June 2, 1999 at the Cornwall Civic Complex in Cornwall, Ontario. The meeting was attended by over 160 people who came to share their views and concerns with the Board.

Open House Scheduled

The International Niagara Board of Control is holding an open house on Tuesday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Old Stone Inn, 5425 Robinson Street, Niagara Falls, Ontario (905) 357-1234.

The purpose of this open house is to inform the public of the Board's current activities, discuss plans to modify the IJC Order of Approval for installation of the Lake Erie - Niagara River Ice Boom and to hear public comments and suggestions regarding the Board's work. In addition, information will be presented on Great Lakes' water levels.

Top of Page

Français | Contact Us | Help | Search | Canada Site
What's New | Topics | Publications | Weather | Home | About Us

part of Environment Canada's Green Lane™

Webmaster

Last Updated: 2001-01-02

Last Reviewed: 2001-01-02

Important Notices and Disclaimers

URL: <http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/water/level-news/lvn99jul.html>

tml



